

Remarks/Arguments:

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 15-16, 21 and 26-28 have been amended and claim 20 has been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 15-19, 21-31 and 33-34 are currently pending in this application.

It is noted that independent claims 1, 15, 16 and 26-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hulvey (USPN: 7,260,357).

It is noted with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated, in paragraphs 7-8 on page 7 of the Office action, that independent claim 34 is allowed and that dependent claims 20-21 and 25 contain allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, without intending to acquiesce to the aforementioned prior art rejection and in order to expedite allowance of this application, by this amendment the allowable subject matter of claim 20 has been incorporated into each of independent claims 1, 15 and 16. Thus, it is submitted that each of independent claims 1, 15 and 16 is clearly allowable.

It is further noted that independent claims 26, 27 and 28 are method claims corresponding to apparatus claims 1, 15 and 16, respectfully. By this amendment, the allowable subject matter of claim 20 has also been incorporated into each of independent method claims 26, 27 and 28. Thus, it is submitted that each of independent claims 26, 27 and 28 is clearly allowable for at least the same reasons as independent claims 1, 15 and 16, respectfully.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that independent claims 1, 15-16, 26-28 and 34, as well as claims 17-19, 21-25 and 29-33 dependent therefrom, clearly are allowable.

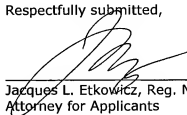
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is clearly allowable and the Examiner is kindly requested to promptly pass this case to issuance.

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Reply to Office Action of September 16, 2009

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In the event, however, that the Examiner has any comments or suggestion of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the Applicant's representatives to expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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